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Viewing cable 08OSLO688, NORwegians Reluctant to Cut Aid for Nicaragua

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08OSLO688**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08OSLO688	2008-12-23 13:22	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Oslo

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758456.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758467.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758468.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758464.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4103/la-embusa-y-el-gabinete-de-ortega>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4104/d-rsquo-escoto-en-onu-ldquo-un-desafio-de-ortega-a-ee-uu-rdquo>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4102/estrada-y-la-ldquo-doble-cara-rdquo-ante-ee-uu>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3966/la-ldquo-injerencia-rdquo-de-ee-uu-en-el-2006>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-23/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2758764.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-23/Mundo/NotaPrincipal/Mundo2758753.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4041/millones-de-dolares-sin-control-y-a-discrecion>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4040/la-ldquo-injerencia-rdquo-de-venezuela-en-2006>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4047/rodrigo-barreto-enviado-de-ldquo-vacaciones-rdquo>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2757239.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/NotaPrincipal/Mundo2746658.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2757244.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2746673.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3991/dra-yadira-centeno-desmiente-cable-diplomatico-eeuu>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3968/pellas-pronostico-a-eeuu-victoria-de-ortega-en-2006>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3967/barreto-era-ldquo-fuente-confiable-rdquo-para-eeuu>

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7250

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 000688

SIPDIS

FOR WHA/CEN ALBERT KRAAIMOORE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/23/2018
TAGS: [EAID](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [NU](#) [NO](#)
SUBJECT: NORWEGIANS RELUCTANT TO CUT AID FOR NICARAGUA

REF: STATE 132044

Classified By: Deputy Political Counselor George Noll for reasons 1.4(b)
) and (d)

11. (C) Poloff met with Kjersti Rodsmoen, head of the Latin America section of the MFA, who expressed official concern over developments in Nicaragua but little interest in actually reducing Norway's budget support. At the same time, Rodsmoen said that Norway would limit its 2009 budget support to 2008's figure of 20 million kroner (approx \$3.2 million) rather than the 25 million kroner it had pledged for 2009 at a budget support group meeting this fall. She said she hoped this would send the proper signal to the Nicaraguan regime. Rodsmoen and poloff had discussed on a previous demarche how Norway's ambassador to Nicaragua upbraided the Nicaraguan foreign minister in a private meeting shortly after the election.

12. (SBU) The Nicaraguan elections have generated interest in parliament, and during criticism by the center-right parties in early December of Norway's aid policy, Development Minister Erik Solheim had the following to say:

"I wouldn't say that we "threaten to hold back budget support." I would rather say that Norwegian budget support demands from countries that receive budget support that certain reasonable conditions must be met, such that the support can actually function. That means that there is a credible opposition, there is a functioning parliament, and that there are review systems. I am unsettled by the developments in Nicaragua, I'm not trying to downplay that. We will continue to follow those developments, and over the next year we may come to new conclusions."

13. (C) Comment: Post doubts that Norway will significantly cut its budget support to Nicaragua absent additional human rights or other violations over the coming months, given the limited steps already taken, and given that parliamentary attention to this issue will likely fade.
JOHNSON